GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:444
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001
INCREASE OF PDS SUGAR QUOTA TO KARNATAKA
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;RUDRAGOUDA PATIL

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government to increase theallocation of sugar to 33.723 metric tonnes as there are more than 111 lakh card holders and the Union Government instead of increasing the sugar quota have decreased it from 21,884.2 tonnes to 20,497.2 tonnes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Union Government propose to reconsider the request of Karnataka and increase the allocation quota?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (S SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a), (b) & (c) : Yes, Sir, the Government of Karnataka in December, 1998 had made a request for increasing their monthly levy sugar quota to 33723 M.Ts from 19117 M.Ts but it could not be acceded to then due to inadequate accrual of levy sugar and the same was conveyed to the State Government. However, when the monthly levy sugar quota of the States/UTs was revised to more up-to-date population figures, i.e. the projected population as on 1.3.1999 from March, 2000, the monthly quota of the Government of Karnataka got enhanced to 21860 M.Ts. Subsequently, when the Central Government decided to exclude the Income Tax assessees and their family members for the drawal of levy sugar from the PDS, the monthly levy quota of theGovernment of Karnataka got reduced to 20437 M.Ts. w.e.f. July, 2000.

Further, in view of reduction of levy sugar from 30% to 15% and restructuring of PDS w.e.f. 1st February, 2001, the Central Government have decided that levy sugar supply under PDS will be restricted to only Below Poverty Line (BPL) families except in case of Special Category States. The Government have also decided that the population to be covered for supply of sugar under PDS would be on the basis of projected population as on 1st March, 2000. The per capita norm has been enhanced from 425 gms to 500gms per month so that the BPL beneficiaries would get more benefit. Accordingly, the Government of Karnataka`s monthly levy quota works out to 8636 M.Ts.